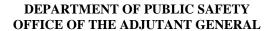
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY







P.O. Box 116, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Phone: 573/526-9100 Fax: 573/634-7966 E-mail: mosema@mail.state.mo.us

Media Advisory (photo & interview opportunities) Contact Susie Stonner at 526-9136

Statewide Tabletop Exercise Tests Winter Readiness

Approximately 75 state employees with disaster response roles will participate in a statewide disaster tabletop exercise from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday, August 23 in the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) located in the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) headquarters in the Missouri Adjutant General's Building off Algoa Road in Jefferson City.

The exercise scenario will encompass a series of problems from a winter severe storm over several regions of the state. The exercise is designed to challenge existing state resources, mutual aid agreements, and build partnerships to help local governments and citizens recover from the disaster. Past statewide exercises have focused on earthquakes, flooding and an pandemic influenza outbreak.

"The purpose of the statewide tabletop exercise is to bring decision makers together to assess the potential risk, inventory state assets, define roles, responsibilities and capabilities and to find innovate ways to help local governments BEFORE a real disaster occurs. Throughout the course of a year, people retire or change jobs. A table top exercises gives both returning and new participants a chance to meet and work face-to-face before a real disaster," said Jerry B. Uhlmann, SEMA Director.

State agencies participating in the exercise include Department of Agriculture, Department of Conservation, Department of Corrections, Department of Economic Development's Division of Railroad Safety, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Health, Department of Higher Education, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Department of Mental Health, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Transportation, Department of Social Services and Department of Public Safety's Division of Fire Safety, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Missouri State Water Patrol, Missouri National Guard and SEMA.

OPERATION DEEP FREEZE, AUGUST 23, 2001, AGENDA

9:00 a.m. Administrative announcements

Opening Remarks
Agency Introductions

Overview of Winter Storm

Utility Response to an Emergency

Conne Burnham, Exercise Officer Jerry Uhlmann, SEMA Director

Steve Runnels, NWS

Charles Cole, Ameren UE

Player Instructions Conne Burnham Movement I - Response Conne Burnham

Steve Sloan, Special Programs

12:15 p.m.- Lunch

1:15 p.m. Movement II - Response

Movement III - Recovery

4:00 p.m. Exercise Critique Conne Burnham